



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
AND RESPONSE SECTION
Division of Emergency Medical
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Date: May 5, 2014

To: Interested Allied Health Education Programs

From: Ken Reed, Community Paramedic Coordinator

Subject: Establishing North Dakota-based Community Paramedic Training Program

North Dakota has been authorized by the ND Legislature to conduct a pilot “Community Paramedic” program. The Community Paramedic concept has been implemented in both the United States as well as internationally. The concept is to use specially-trained local EMS providers to help fill gaps in the local health delivery system. Each community examines how best their EMS providers can be utilized to improve the access to primary health care.

The initial group of licensed Paramedics are being trained by the Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie, MN via interactive distance education. It was both the intent and goal that we would develop an “in-state” resource for the training of future Community Paramedics. The Community Paramedic subcommittee of the North Dakota EMS Advisory Council is very interested in developing an education entity to provide future Community Paramedic training in North Dakota.

Our base criteria for consideration would include:

- Must be capable of granting college credit hours for course participation
- Must have interactive distance education capability
- Access to multi-disciplinary teaching staff to address the competencies in the curriculum
- Access to clinical sites/preceptors in primary care, behavioral health and public health.
- Agreement to conduct the program based on the current consensus curriculum with added requirements as stipulated by the ND Dept. of Health.
- Experience with EMS-specific education

The current national curriculum can be obtained from the Community Paramedic Website developed by the North Central EMS Institute (<http://communityparamedic.org/>). The curriculum must be requested by a recognized-college based education entity or representative.

After you have had an opportunity to review the curriculum and have an interest in potentially offering Community Paramedic training at your institution, I would ask that you contact me by email. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 925-895-1980.